

CHAPTER 3 - AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Chapter 3 summarizes the physical, biological, social, and economic environments of the BCLMP area and the effects of implementing each alternative on that environment as they relate to identified issues. Analysis presented here and the project specialist reports (see Project Record) present the relevant physical, biological, social, and economic components of the existing environment for rangeland resources within the BCLMP area. It also presents the scientific and analytical basis for the comparison of alternatives considered in detail as presented in Chapter 2. The analysis in Chapter 3 is based on the various specialist reports, which, with all reference material, are included in the Project Record (40 CFR 1502.21). This analysis, specialist reports, and other materials in the Project Record contain the detailed data, methodologies, analyses, conclusions, and technical documentation relied upon to reach effects analysis conclusions related to this project and disclosed in this DEIS. Relying on specialists' reports and the Project Record helps implement the Council on Environmental Quality regulations' provision that agencies should reduce analysis paperwork (40 CFR 30 §1500.4, 2003), that EIS's shall be analytic rather than encyclopedic, and that EIS's shall be kept concise and no longer than absolutely necessary (40 CFR 30 §1502.2, 2003). The objective is to furnish enough site-specific information to demonstrate a reasoned consideration of the environmental impacts of the alternatives and how these impacts can be mitigated without repeating detailed analysis and background information available elsewhere. The Project Record is on file at the Ashland RD and available for public review upon request.

Chapter 3 includes the following subsections:

- 3.1 Vegetation
- 3.2 Fuels
- 3.3 Soils
- 3.4 Water Resources
- 3.5 Economics
- 3.6 Sensitive Plants
- 3.7 Range
- 3.8 Noxious Weeds
- 3.9 Scenery Resources
- 3.10 Recreation
- 3.11 Cultural Resources
- 3.12 Carbon Flux
- 3.13 Air Quality
- 3.14 Wildlife